

# FISHERY RESEARCH



**FISHERY RESEARCH  
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT  
1996**

**FISHERY RESEARCH SUPERVISION  
F-73-R-19**

**By:**

**Al Van Vooren, Fishery Research Manager  
Thomas J. McArthur, Staff Biologist**

**IDFG 97-39  
December 1997**

## **ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

State of: Idaho

Grant: F-73-R-19, Fishery Research

Project No.: 1

Title: Fishery Research Supervision

Contract Period: July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To annually provide administrative and technical support, direct field operations and planning for each of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) fishery research projects (15) to produce:
  - a) a work plan
  - b) a project statement
  - c) a report, and
  - d) a project review
2. To provide technical training and continuing education for IDFG's fishery staff (45) in procedures, technical writing, and statistical design on analysis.
3. To provide technical edits, peer review, and publications of 41 to 50 fishery activities and findings of IDFG for permanent record.
4. To maintain the IDFG report resource reference area and a computerized report data base.
5. To provide office space and equipment storage for field staff at the Nampa Fisheries Research Center.

### **ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING**

Direct supervision was provided to five Principal Fishery Research Biologists, one Fishery Staff Biologist, and one Senior Fishery Research Biologist. Indirect supervision was provided to twelve Fishery Research Biologists and six Senior Fishery Technicians. One new principal and four research biologists were selected. One grievance was handled and settled.

Sport Fish Restoration, Bonneville Power Administration, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lower Snake River Compensation Plan grants and contracts to support nineteen

Department and three University conducted research projects were prepared and submitted. Individual study review, work plan, and study design meetings were conducted for various projects. Field reviews were conducted on five projects.

## **TRAINING**

In conjunction with the annual research meeting, half-day sessions on "effective listening" and interpersonal relations were provided.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Eighteen annual reports and three research briefs were reviewed, edited, prepared by word processing specialists for printing, and submitted to funding sources. New guidelines for Research Briefs were developed and issued.

## **RESOURCE REFERENCE AREA**

The Report Reference Area and Fisheries Report Catalog System were maintained and copies of reports provided in response to requests.

## **SPORT FISH RESTORATION COORDINATION**

The submission of annual grant agreements was coordinated. Developments in Sport Fish Restoration Program rules and policies were communicated to potentially affected Department personnel. Sport Fish Restoration funding levels among bureaus was coordinated during the state budget preparation process.

Annual Region 1/7 Federal Aid Coordinators Conference was hosted in Idaho and I participated in a meeting of Assistant Regional Directors for Federal Aid as a representative of the Working Sub-Committee of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Grants and Aid Committee.

I also served on a special task force of state, federal, and industry representatives to develop a summary report "Kansas: Lessons Learned," with recommendations to avoid potential misuse of federal aid funds.

## OTHER

I chaired a resident fisheries work group within the Department which addressed program level needs, including an assessment of headquarters-regional relations. I participated on a Department "Socio-Economic Team," which produced a report with various recommendations on improving public involvement processes. I also participated on a Department "Public Input Team," which covered much of the same ground.

I served as the coordinator and Department contact for bull trout issues. This included development of proposed temperature criteria, updating distribution information and maps, and summarizing statewide actions taken since 1994 to address bull trout problems.

Author:

Al Val Vooren  
Fishery Research Manager

## **ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

State of: Idaho

Grant No.: F-73-R-19, Fishery Research

Project No.: 2

Title: Statewide Fisheries Statistical Assistance,  
Angler Opinions, and Harvest Surveys

Period Covered: April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To provide estimates of harvest and effort for steelhead.
2. To provide Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) personnel with training and support in angler survey design, implementation, and analysis.

### **RESULTS**

#### **Harvest Estimates**

The following harvest surveys were completed with results distributed to management and reported in separate management documents and electronically on the Internet:

- A. 1996 Fall Steelhead Season Harvest Telephone Survey.
- B. 1997 Spring Steelhead Season Harvest Telephone Survey.

#### **Survey and Statistical Training and Support**

The following survey, statistical, database, and computer support was provided to research and management personnel:

- A. University contracts preparation, and progress reports review.
  1. Montana State University - Henrys Fork Snake River
  2. Idaho State University - Nutrient Flows in Kootenai River
  3. University of Idaho - Pend Oreille Studies (2)
  4. University of Idaho - Cooperative Anadromous Fish Studies
- B. Creel Team Review of current programs (4/4) with summarization distributed (4/25).
- C. STORET water quality data retrieval for Lake Lowell.

- D. Support in use of Creel Program supplied to the Panhandle, Magic Valley, Southeast, Upper Snake, and Salmon regions, the Wild Trout Study, and the Sockeye Evaluation Project.
- E. Continued Fisheries Reference Area Computerization with listing of IDFG Fisheries Reports placed upon the Internet with search capabilities along with request forms for hardcopy of a selected report.
- F. Attended IDFG Federal Aid fisheries project review meeting in Nampa (4/10-4/11).
- G. Steelhead Economic Impact Studies paper review.
- H. Results of Steelhead and Resident Fisheries Economic Surveys placed on the Internet.
- I. Extracted 1996 Sturgeon Permit holders from license buyer database, printed labels for newsletters and diaries to track catch information.
- J. Translated list of names and addresses of Big Wood River Regulation Change public meeting attendees into a database file and printed mailing labels for and second mailing of questionnaire on angler displacement studies.
- K. Translated list of names and addresses of Coeur d'Alene creel angler contacts into a database file, printed mailing labels for and second mailing of questionnaire on angler preferences, designed and constructed questionnaire data entry screens with error checking, performed summary statistical analysis, distributed summary results to management, and co-authored paper for presentation at annual meeting of the Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society meeting. Printed mailing labels for subsequent longitudinal panel/focus group study.
- L. Reviewed and provided written comment on questionnaires for proposed rule changes in the Upper Snake and Magic Valley regions. Additional suggestions provided on sampling scheme to regional managers.
- M. Extracted random sample of Clearwater Region anglers from license buyer database, translated sample into dBase III file, and provided to regional manager for Manns Lake telephone survey.
- N. Extracted complete list of Southeast Region anglers from license buyer database, translated into dBase III and SYSTAT file for proposed regulation change survey, and currently awaiting survey instrument from the regional fisheries manager for review and sample size determination.
- O. Consultation on Arrowrock bull trout mark-recapture study provided to Southwest Region fisheries personnel.
- P. Statistical consultation and computer training while collecting steelhead harvest and biological data at access point check station for the Harvest and Monitoring and Evaluation project.
- Q. Continued regular consultation on use, computational methods, assumptions, and interpretation of results of parametric and non-parametric statistics to fisheries personnel.
- R. Continued computer technical support and programming supplied to fisheries personnel for both hardware and software.
- S. Continued coordination with Idaho Department of Transportation for vehicle registration data and drivers license data to fisheries surveys along with coordination with Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation for boat registration data.

- T. Resident Fisheries Team Participation
  - 1. Participated in all team activities with assistance supplied in all requests and by completing assigned tasks in a timely manner so that the team could solve numerous resident fish issues.
- U. Biological Data Team
  - 1. Placed historical fish stock records on IDFG Intranet and Internet using web technology.
- V. Internet Team
  - 1. Instructed use of Internet tools at IDFG In-Service Training School at four evening and one morning session.
  - 2. Coordinated Fisheries Section of Website.
  - 3. Placed Fisheries Job Announcements and Application Forms on Website and posted the announcements with applications to fisheries list services and news groups.
  - 4. Assisted fisheries personnel in literature searches, fisheries news group and list servers for postings for specific information, and locating fisheries resources on the Internet by compiling and distributing a list of URLs.
  - 5. Tested and implemented the use of video conferencing and group collaboration utilizing the LAN and Internet with 12 headquarters and regional fisheries personnel.
  - 6. Assisted team in obtainment of the goal of 1996 Best Conservation Agency Website.
  - 7. Assisted in demonstration of web technology in IDFG at two commission presentations.
  - 8. Facilitated access to IDFG LAN and E-mail through Internet for use by Department personnel from remote locations.
- W. Fisheries Project Review and Study Design Team
- X. IDFG Database Team
  - 1. Assisted in development plan and start of implementation of the standardizing of Oracle Tables for IDFG statewide fisheries databases to facilitate use and search abilities using Internet technologies.

Author:

Thomas J. McArthur  
Fisheries Staff Biologist

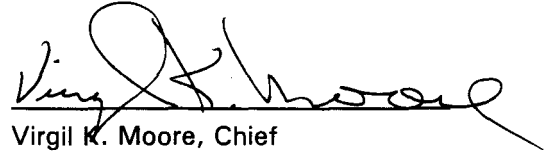
**Submitted by:**

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GAME Fishery Research Manager

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Staff Biologist

**Approved by:**

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virgil K. Moore", written over a horizontal line.

Virgil K. Moore, Chief  
Bureau of Fisheries